

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MBABAN 00192 180907Z  
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00  
PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /028 W  
-----040058 180909Z /15  
R 180610Z JAN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY MBABANE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3709  
INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE  
AMEMBASSY MASERU

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AF/S ALSO FOR AMBASSDOR NORLAND

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, WZ  
SUBJECT: PREPARATIONS FOR "ELECTIONS" IN SWAZILAND

REF: 77 MBABANE 719

1. IN JANUARY 14 SPEECH TO TRADITIONAL REGIMENTS AT CLOSING  
FUNCTION OF TWO-MONTH-LONG INCWALA CEREMONY, KING SOBUZA PROVIDED  
SOME INFO ABOUT TINKHUNDLA "ELECTIONS" HE PROMISED NATION IN  
MARCH LAST YEAR (REFTEL).

2. TEAM OF SWAZI NATION COUNCILLORS WILL SHORTLY BEGIN COUNTRY-  
WIDE TOUR OF TINKHUNDLAS TO PREPARE FOR "ELECTIONS." TINKHUNDLAS  
(NON-ELECTED, RURAL-BASED CONSULTATIVE BODIES) WILL NOMINATE  
CANDIDATES AFTER CONSULTING PEOPLE IN THEIR REGION. CANDIDATES  
WILL THEN BE PRESENTED TO KING FOR FINAL APPROVAL. KING MADE CLEAR  
HE WILL NOT ALLOW CAMPAIGNING OR SECRET BALLOT, BOTH OF WHICH  
HE REGARDS AS BRITISH PARLIAMENTARY VESTIGES INCOMPATIBLE  
WITH SWAZI MONARCHY. (COMMENT: EMBASSY HAS LEARNED CONFIDENTIALLY  
THAT SWAZILAND POLICE INTELLIGENCE BRANCH HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED  
TO REPORT ANY "POWER-HUNGRY POLITICIANS" WHO MAY HAVE ALREADY  
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BEGUN TO CAMPAIGN FOR TINKHUNDLA NOMINATION.)

3. NO ANNOUNCEMENT YET OF DETAILS OF TINKHUNDLA NOMINATION MECHANISM  
OR DATE OF "ELECTIONS." GIVEN DELIBERATENESS WITH WHICH KING AND  
GOVERNMENT APPROACH THESE ISSUES, WE DO NOT EXPECT EARLY DATE.

WACHOB

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ELECTIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 18 jan 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978MBABAN00192  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780026-0531  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** MBABANE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780150/aaaabqcy.tel  
**Line Count:** 62  
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**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** e6b2cfe2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 MBABANE 719  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 28 apr 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3756149  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PREPARATIONS FOR \"ELECTIONS\" IN SWAZILAND  
**TAGS:** PINT, WZ  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/e6b2cfe2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
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**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014